

## Millbury Public Schools School Committee

### *Regular Session* Meeting Minutes

21 FEB - 0 AM 9:18

Date: October 28, 2020

Present: Mrs. Jennifer Nietupski, Chairperson  
Mr. Chris Wilbur, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Julia Lagerholm, Member  
Mr. Nick Lazzaro, Member  
Mrs. Jessica Bristol, Member  
  
Mr. Richard Bedard, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Ms. Lizz Boutiette, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment  
Mr. Gregory Myers, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of Pupil Services

Location: Millbury Jr/Sr/ High School Media Center

Time: 7:00pm

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Mrs. Nietupski opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Review and Approval of October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lazzaro made a motion to accept the minutes of October 14, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0).

2. Report of the Administration

a. Introduction of New Jr./Sr. High School Faculty Members

Mr. Christopher Lowe, Principal of Millbury Jr./Sr. High School, introduced the newest members of the Jr./Sr. High School staff, including Ms. Danielle Schiloski (health education teacher), Mr. Jonathan MacIsaac (business/technology teacher), Ms. Emma Delaney (school adjustment counselor / social worker), Ms. Anna Crocker (Jr. High School science teacher), Ms. Brittany Balkus (special education teacher), Mr. Sean Bastien (biology teacher), Ms. Laura Anacone (Jr. High English teacher), Mr. Josh MacCreery (athletic director).

b. i-Ready Data Overview

Ms. Lizz Boutiette provided the Committee with an overview of what the new student assessment software program, i-Ready, provides to the District. The District's instructional coaches, Ms. Tamisha Thompson & Ms. Rodrigues (Shaw), Mr. Chris Mainhart & Ms. Cheryl Schonberg (Elmwood), and Ms. Tarallo (Jr./Sr. High) provided an overview of recent i-Ready data, highlighting strengths and focus areas for improvement by school. Ms. Tarallo also shared Advanced Placement results from last spring, which showed increased participation in AP testing and an increase in qualifying scores.

c. International Trip Update

Mr. Lowe updated the Committee on the status of the school trip to Berlin, Prague, and Budapest scheduled for this April. The Committee granted preliminary approval to begin planning this trip

at its November 6, 2019 meeting. In light of the global pandemic, Mr. Lowe recommended that the Committee consider either cancelling the trip or rescheduling it to April 2022.

Mr. Lowe explained that rescheduling the trip affords families four options: 1.) Allow their child to attend the trip in April 2022; 2.) Cancel their child's participation and receive a refund, less \$565 (non refundable deposit + cancellation fee), 3.) Cancel their child's participation and receive a refund, less \$165 if another student enrolls for the trip by December 15; 4.) Receive a transferable travel voucher representing the full cost of the trip valid until September 2023.

Mr. Lowe asked the Committee to provide preliminary approval to reschedule the trip to April, 2022.

Mrs. Bristol asked Mr. Lowe for clarification on EF Tours's refund policy. Mrs. Bristol asked if Mr. Lowe considered surveying parents regarding their preference choices. Mr. Lowe had not considered a survey. Mrs. Bristol asked about the number of sophomores who might be interested in a postponed trip. Mr. Lowe did not have that information; he wanted to wait for preliminary approval before polling sophomores. Mrs. Nietupski recommended that the sophomore class should be made aware of the postponed trip in order to help facilitate options 3 and 4. Mr. Wilbur asked for clarification on timelines and suggested that Mr. Kodra poll the sophomore class regarding interest in a postponed trip and also expressed concern over EF Tours not providing a full refund. Mr. Lazzaro expressed concern about the timing of refunds, especially for college-bound seniors who would likely need the money for school. Mrs. Bristol also expressed concern about the transfer of vouchers and what would happen if seniors were not able to find another traveller to replace them. She also expressed concern about EF Tours's unwillingness to provide a larger refund. Mr. Lazzaro suggested that EF Tours's unwillingness to provide a larger refund might jeopardize future business with the District and asked if the Committee might consider using school funds to help refund families. Mr. Wilbur clarified that since this was a contract between families and EF Tours, Town funding could not be used for this purpose.

Mr. Wilbur made a motion to provide Mr. Lowe with preliminary approval to reschedule the trip to April, 2022, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. Mrs. Nietupski took a roll call vote: Mr. Wilbur - YES, Mrs. Lagerholm - YES, Mr. Lazzaro - YES, Mrs. Bristol - NO, Mrs. Nietupski - YES. Motion carried (4-1).

d. Reopening Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Myers updated the Committee on the reopening of school, including the fact that OHI will be returning to conduct a second indoor air quality test measuring relative humidity, temperature, CO, and CO<sub>2</sub> in each of our schools on October 29. In addition, Mr. Hall provided an update on the plan to bring kindergarten students back to school four days per week is on schedule and will commence on November 19.

Mr. Wilbur asked about plans to keep classrooms warm in cold weather considering our current practice of leaving windows open. Mr. Bedard replied that our heating costs will increase in order to offset colder outside air.

3. Finance and Operations

a. Fiscal Year 2020 DESE End-of-Year Financial Report

Mr. Bedard provided the Committee with an overview of the End-of-Year Financial Report to be submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as required by Regulation

603 CMR 10.03(d). Mr. Bedard asked the Committee to consider voting to accept the End-of-Year Financial Report for FY'20.

Mr. Wilbur made a motion to accept the End-of-Year Financial Report for FY'20, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0).

Mr. Wilbur complimented Mr. Bedard on the completion of the End-of-Year Financial Report

#### 4. Unfinished Business

##### a. Report of the Millbury Jr./Sr. High School Field Renovation Project

Mr. Myers asked the Committee to consider using \$464 from the student parking revolving account to fund the numbering of parking spaces in the new front parking lot. After this purchase, the revolving account will still have an account balance of \$3,156.75 before the new school year's deposits.

Mrs Bristol made a motion to use \$464 from the student parking revolving account to fund the numbering of parking spaces in the new front parking lot, seconded by Mr. Lazzaro. All approved (5-0).

##### b. Shaw School Project Update

Mr. Myers stated that the Building Committee will meet on October 29 to review project cost estimates based on 90% construction documents. Mr. Myers stated that the project is under budget and value engineering is likely not needed at this time.

##### c. Policy Sub Committee

Mr. Lazzaro, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, stated that the Committee had a second reading for Policies IGB: Student ServicesIGD: Curriculum Adoption (updated language), IHAM: Health Education (updated language), IHB: Special Instructional Programs and Accommodations (updated language), IHBEA: English Language Learners (updated language), JB: Equal Education Opportunities (updated language), JEB: Entrance Age (updated language), and JF: School Admission (updated language)

##### d. 2nd Reading and Acceptance of Policies

Mrs. Nietupski asked the Committee to consider removing Policy JLD: Guidance Program, Policy JP: Student Gifts and Solicitations, and Policy IHA: Basic Instructional Program from policy manual. Mrs. Lagerholm made a motion to remove Policy JLD from the policy manual, seconded by Mrs. Bristol. All approved (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski asked the Committee to consider accepting Policy IE: Organization of Instruction, Policy ID: School Day, and Policy IGA: Curriculum Development, as amended. Mr. Wilbur made a motion to accept Policy IE: Organization of Instruction, Policy ID: School Day, and Policy IGA: Curriculum Development as amended, seconded by Mrs. Lagerholm. All approved (5-0).

Mrs. Nietupski stated that the Policy manual is located on the School Committee website and searchable by keywords.

##### e. Discussion of Proposed 2020-2021 School Committee Goals

Mrs. Nietupski asked the Committee to table the discussion of its goals until the next meeting due to the late hour. The Committee voiced agreement.


Mrs. Nietupski asked the Committee for any other new business. Hearing none, Mrs. Nietupski reminded the community that the Committee's next meeting will be held at the Raymond E. Shaw School at 7:00PM on November 5.


#### 7. Executive Session


The Committee voted to enter Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, §21(A)4 to discuss the deployment of security personnel and devices or strategy with respect to security with the District's School Resource Officer, Officer Oliveri. Mrs. Nietupski stated that no further business will be conducted when the Committee comes out of this evening's executive session.

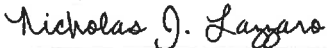
A roll call vote was taken to enter executive session.. Mrs. Lagerholm - YES, Mr. Lazzaro - YES, Mr. Wilbur - YES, Mrs. Bristol - YES, Mrs. Nietupski - YES. All in favor (5-0)

Approved:

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Jennifer B. Nietupski, Chairperson

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Christopher J. Wilbur, Vice Chairperson

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Nicholas Lazzaro

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Jessica Bristol